

# Inter-site Shipments Solved

## Tennsco Replaces Homegrown Shop Floor System with Radley MES

### AT A GLANCE

#### CUSTOMER SNAPSHOT

- **Manufacturer of steel storage products**
- **8 Plants in Dickson, TN using Radley**

#### RADLEY PRODUCTS

- **iR\*EDi EDI**
- **Traceability**
- **Containerization/Kitting**
- **Inventory Control**
- **IntelliLabel®**
- **Integrated Labeling**

#### PROJECT SNAPSHOT

- **Operational Analysis**
- **Project Management**
- **Software Configuration**
- **Label Configuration**
- **On-Site Training**
- **Technical Support**

#### BENEFITS

- **Integrated Data Collection to ERP**
- **Streamlined Shipping & Receiving**
- **Eliminated Manual Data Entry**
- **SSCC Compliant Labeling**
- **Real-Time Inventory Visibility**

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*"By partnering with Radley we were able to fill one of the biggest gaps in functionality from our legacy ERP system and IFS. Since our go-live Radley has continued to provide us with this support we need as we evolve our overall solution so that we can gain maximum efficiency and functionality from our data collection devices and the employees that use them."*

Director of Information Systems  
Tennsco Corporation

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#### Customer Summary

For more than 55 years, Tennsco has manufactured high quality storage solutions, including filing, shelves, lockers, and shop equipment. The family-owned business is based in Dickson, TN with eight manufacturing facilities spanning 1.6 million square feet across its campus.

#### Challenges

Many years ago, Tennsco developed its own ERP system, including product serialization and labeling – using a separate database and spreadsheets. Tennsco's growth over time outpaced its software's capabilities, and Tennsco was unable to make enough enhancements to its software to satisfy the business' needs. In addition, the homegrown system was supported by the original developer, who was planning to retire within two years. Key deficiencies with the system included:

- Movement of finished goods inventory and container license plates between manufacturing plant sites lacked verification, auditing, and traceability.
- Serial number label printing required manual effort during the manufacturing process.
- IFS Applications™ replaced Tennsco's homegrown ERP system, but IFS could not support the transfer of container license plates between Tennsco's plant sites.
- Tennsco required an MES solution that would 1) automate IFS shop floor and warehouse transactions, 2) support inter-site product movement with traceability, and 3) function on Tennsco's existing Motorola/Zebra hardware.

#### Solution

In order to tie Tennsco's shop floor requirements together, Tennsco reached out to IFS software partner, Radley Corporation. Radley's MES & IntelliLabel technology is now automating shop floor transaction processing. Radley was also able to load Tennsco's legacy serial # database to avoid the relabeling and entry of almost 1 million existing license plates. Today, Tennsco's finished goods shipments between its plants are automated, with complete freedom to move container/license plate history from one Tennsco plant to another. Additionally, Tennsco has traceability as orders are consolidated and staged for shipment to customers.

Functional Areas Automated:

- **Manufacturing**
  - Created inventory, labeled and palletized.
  - System-automated label preprints during the manufacturing process.
  - Radley utilizes Tennsco's in-house developed APIs for transaction processing.
  - Radley provided Bartender label infrastructure to enable Tennsco WIP labeling.
- **Warehouse/Inventory Management**
  - All Tennsco inventory is maintained 100% within IFS, utilizing Radley transaction automation.
  - License-plated finished goods inventory is completed at multiple Tennsco plant sites, before transfer/consolidation at a single site for shipment.
  - One simple label scan receives an entire truckload of finished goods from any other Tennsco plant site.
  - IntelliLabel maintains complete finished goods inventory history and status, including traceability records.
  - Tennsco has 100% automation of SSCC label printing, shipment scanning and order verification; all manual legacy processes have been eliminated.

#### Results

Radley's MES & IntelliLabel serialized license-plating solution plays several key roles to streamline Tennsco's inventory tracking and shipping processes with IFS ERP. Tennsco has gained real-time visibility of materials, WIP and finished goods inventory, across and between eight facilities. Manual data entry and label printing are automated, eliminating unnecessary employee effort, and boosting productivity. Radley MES collects and validates data behind the scenes, while IFS Applications is now the single system of record.